

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF THE MARY T. NORTON CONGRESSIONAL AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 1995

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, today I rise before the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Joanne L. Smith, Elnora Watson, and Carol Ann Wilson, this year's recipients of the Mary T. Norton Congressional Award. This prestigious award, sponsored by the United Way Partners in Caring, will be presented at its 60th Annual Campaign Kick-Off Luncheon on September 26, 1995.

The United Way of Hudson County, founded in 1935, works to meet human service needs with the help of a staff of volunteers, including approximately 1,100 corporate, labor, government, and civil leaders. The United Way initiated this award in 1990 in recognition of Congresswoman NORTON's commitment to human services. This award recognizes women who make an outstanding effort in furthering the success of United Way Programs in our community and statewide.

Joanne L. Smith, born, raised, and educated in Jersey City, holds a bachelor's degree in urban studies from St. Peter's College. As executive director of Let's Celebrate, a local United Way organization feeding the hungry, she serves the community by moving people from hunger to wholeness. She has developed a 19-week job training program called Job Power. Ms. Smith serves as a volunteer for many organizations, including homeless shelters and a 24-hour helpline.

Elnora Watson is a native of Jersey City who serves as the president and chief executive officer of the Urban League of Hudson County. Ms. Watson, a St. Peter's College graduate, has been employed at the Urban League for the past 19 years. The Urban League promotes racial harmony by working to stamp out prejudice and intolerance in communities throughout the Nation. As leader of the Urban League of Hudson County, she has developed numerous outreach programs in an effort to help bring the promise of America to those less fortunate.

Carol Ann Wilson, a graduate of Seton Hall College in Pennsylvania, was elected to Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities. She holds a master's degree in educational psychology from Fordham University. As an educator and director of special services in the Secaucus Public School District, she developed special education programs which assist children with special needs. In the past, she was named "New Jersey's Outstanding Young Woman" and "New Jersey Woman of the Year." Ms. Wilson was involved in generating funds for community mental health programs. As director of the Hudson County Department of Human Services, she developed the AIDS Network of Care which attempts to work with AIDS patients who also suffer from substance abuse.

These three individuals, the United Way and all of the volunteers of America should be commended for their compassion for and dedication to the needs of their fellow Americans. I salute them today.

MILWAUKEE'S SOUTH SIDE BUSINESS CLUB NAMES LEONARD W. ZIOLKOWSKI MAN OF THE YEAR

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 1995

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Leonard Ziolkowski on being named 1995 Man of the Year by Milwaukee's South Side Business Club.

In naming Mr. Ziolkowski as Man of the Year, the South Side Business Club honors a man who has dedicated his career to community service. Mr. Ziolkowski's 45 years of service to the people of Milwaukee began in 1950 when he joined the Milwaukee Police Department. Mr. Ziolkowski's outstanding abilities and sense of dedication served him well as he rose through department ranks from patrolman to inspector of police at the Police Academy.

After retiring from the police department, he went on to share his considerable knowledge and experience by assuming the position of supervisor of the Milwaukee Area Technical College's Police Science Program. Len continues to guide the direction of law enforcement in our community through his current service as chairman of Milwaukee's Police and Fire Commission.

In addition to his outstanding achievements in the field of law enforcement, Leonard Ziolkowski has been active in numerous charitable and civic organizations, and is also a proud and active member of Milwaukee's Polish-American community. Through his involvement in groups such as the St. Joseph's Foundation, St. Jude's League, the Polish National Alliance, and the South Side Business Club, Mr. Ziolkowski has done much to improve the lives of others in our community.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Leonard Ziolkowski on his years of service to our community and I congratulate him on being named 1995 Man of the Year.

A TRIBUTE TO A WEEK WITHOUT VIOLENCE

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 1995

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention the fine work and outstanding public service of a group of committed organizations in California's Inland Empire dedicated to the common goal of a world without violence. In October, these

civic organizations will launch the Week Without Violence, a community based effort designed to promote a better and safer world.

The short term goal of the Week Without Violence campaign is to engage the press and public for 7 days in simple, thought provoking activities and dialogue that demonstrate practical, sustainable alternatives to violence. Over the long term, sponsors of the program are hopeful that this will be the beginning of a new way of thinking and acting in our community and across the Nation.

The Week Without Violence begins on October 15 with a day of remembrance dedicated to the memory of those touched by violence and including church services for people of all faiths. Monday and Tuesday are dedicated to protecting our children and keeping our schools safe. Area school teachers and administrators will work with students of all ages in promoting safety and nonviolence. The balance of the week is dedicated to confronting violence against women, facing violence among men, eliminating racism and hate crime, and replacing violence with sports and fitness.

The Week Without Violence is the result of a unique partnership among a great many area agencies. They include Arrowhead United Way; Children's Network; City of Highland Police; Community Against Drugs; Housing Authority of San Bernardino; Inland Congregations United for Change; Option House; San Bernardino Unified School District; San Bernardino County Health Department; San Bernardino County Probation Department; San Bernardino County Schools; San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department; San Bernardino County Sexual Assault Services; San Bernardino Parks, Recreation, and Community Service; San Bernardino Police Department; San Bernardino Public Library; San Manuel Indian Reservation; West Side Action; and the YWCA. Specifically worthy of mention for this tremendous effort is Ann Ivey, the chief of Community Health Services for the San Bernardino County Health Department and the chair of the Week Without Violence planning committee.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me and our colleagues in recognizing this unique and valuable community-based endeavor to promote safety and nonviolence. Not only am I deeply impressed by the fantastic cooperation among area agencies, I am grateful to see concerned citizens coming together at the local level to make a difference in our community and our country. The Week Without Violence is likely to become a model for the Nation and I believe it is only fitting that the House of Representatives recognize this outstanding effort today.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

CONGRATULATIONS BASEBALL
STANDOUT STEVE RUGGERI

HON. GLENN POSHARD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 1995

Mr. POSHARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to Mr. Steve Ruggeri who was recently invited to play in the U.S. Olympic Festival baseball competition held in Colorado Springs, CO. Now a senior at Johnston City High, Steve is considered one of the top baseball players in southern Illinois. He is known throughout the State for his commanding presence at shortstop, and played last season for the Herrin Thunderbirds American Legion team and the Herrin High School Tigers.

I trust that Steve's experience at the U.S. Olympic Festival was as memorable for him as it was for his family. Becoming an award winning baseball player takes more than simply raw talent. It takes a strong commitment to working hard, always doing your best, and most importantly it takes family support. Steve has been blessed with these precious gifts, and I wish him the best of luck in all he does.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Steve Ruggeri's determination to make his baseball dreams come true. Being selected to play in the U.S. Olympic Festival is a marvelous accomplishment, and I am proud to represent this outstanding athlete and his family in Congress.

HELPING SMALL BUSINESS
EXPORT

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 1995

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert my Washington Report for Wednesday, September 27, 1995, into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

HELPING SMALL BUSINESS EXPORT

I recently held some meetings with 9th District businesses on ways to help them export, and I was impressed by the extent to which several are already involved in exporting. Local companies are exporting products ranging from chairs and machines to popcorn and sewer pipe. Hoosiers are sending their products not just to Canada and Mexico but also to Japan, South Korea, and Australia. For some companies, exports represent as much as half of their business. There is an increasing recognition among local businesses that much of their future growth lies in exports. Yet smaller businesses in particular need more information and assistance with how to pursue export opportunities.

IMPORTANCE OF EXPORTS

Exports are an increasingly important factor in our economy—both in Indiana and nationwide. Since 1988, exports have accounted for more than one-third of our nation's economic growth, and export-related jobs have grown eight times faster than total employment. Strong export growth is good news for our economy. Exports tend to support jobs that are higher-skilled and higher-paying—some 15% higher—than average U.S. jobs.

In Indiana, exports have nearly doubled since 1988, reaching a record \$9.2 billion last year. The leading export industries in Indi-

ana are transportation equipment, industrial machinery and computer equipment, chemicals, and electronic equipment. Nearly 80% of Hoosier exports are from the manufacturing sector, with the rest coming from mining (17%) and agriculture (4%). Indiana exports support roughly 180,000 Hoosier jobs. In the 9th District, more than 700 manufacturers are pursuing export opportunities. Despite these successes, I find that most Hoosiers are not fully aware of the extent to which current and future jobs in their communities are linked to exports. It is no exaggeration to say that much of our area's economic future—including our ability to create good-paying jobs—is linked to our ability to export and be competitive in the world market.

NEW OPPORTUNITIES

U.S. export prospects look good for the remainder of this decade. World economic growth is expected to be strong over the next several years, generating increased demand for U.S. products and services. Recent international trade agreements are lowering trade barriers and opening promising new markets to U.S. companies. Continued low U.S. inflation will boost the price competitiveness of our products. Overall, U.S. exports are expected to grow between 8.5% and 10% annually for the rest of this decade. Increased exports mean business growth, greater profits, and more and better jobs for U.S. workers.

CHALLENGE FOR SMALL BUSINESS

I find that large corporations in the District are generally well-informed about the importance of exports. They often have employees who specialized in identifying and exploiting export opportunities. But many small businesses—those with 50 or fewer employees—still find the prospect of exporting daunting. Small businesses account for 24% of the manufacturing sector's total sales, but only 12% of its exports. Even when they have a product or service they believe will be attractive overseas, many small businesses do not know how to get started or how to explore potential markets.

Certainly companies can get help from the local business community and from business organizations such as the Chamber of Commerce. And they can hire export management companies to help them establish overseas markets for their products. But government can also play a supportive role.

STATE EFFORTS

The Indiana state government has fourteen Small Business Development Centers located throughout the state to assist companies that are relatively new to exporting. These Centers help companies prepare international marketing plans and target certain foreign markets for their products. The International Trade Division of the Indiana Department of Commerce offers financial and technical assistance to small and medium-sized firms, and maintains seven foreign trade offices in Canada, Mexico, Europe and Asia to help Hoosier companies enter new markets.

FEDERAL EFFORTS

At the most general level, the federal government gets involved by negotiating the reduction or removal of foreign trade barriers to our products and by working to maintain a stable international economy. By working to promote stability and prosperity in the world economy, U.S. policy creates new opportunities for U.S. firms abroad.

But the federal government also assists Hoosier companies more directly. U.S. officials act as advocates overseas for companies bidding on foreign contracts, especially on government contracts. Federal agencies such as the Export-Import Bank and the Small Business Administration help finance

projects in countries where private banks will not tread. The U.S. Department of Commerce—the lead agency for trade policy and export promotion—provides export counseling, country and regional market information, and overseas promotion services. It provides information to local businesses on the latest export opportunities and resources through newsletters, faxes, and on-line computer services. Export Assistance Centers have been set up to provide a single point of contact for all federal export promotion and finance programs.

BUDGET PRESSURES

The effort to balance the federal budget is forcing a reevaluation of many U.S. government programs that support business. The congressional budget plan passed earlier this year recommends eliminating the Commerce Department, terminating federal assistance for Small Business Development Centers, and reducing funding for the Export-Import Bank. Certainly some cutbacks can be made, and various programs could be streamlined or combined with others to make them run better at less cost. But we should not gut worthwhile programs that help create profits and jobs for American enterprises. It would be short-sighted to end export programs that are producing significant results and are helping to improve our country's long-term economic outlook.

CONCLUSION

Exports are critical to our nation's economic future and to the job prospects of many of our young people today. U.S. businesses both large and small need to think globally and try to tap into the vast and rapidly growing markets overseas.

TRIBUTE TO VINCENT M. PICCIANO

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 1995

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Vincent M. Picciano who is retiring as the director of court services for the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court in Fairfax County, VA.

For the past 34 years Vince has served the court, first as a probation counselor, then as probation supervisor. In 1965, he became its director where he was responsible for a wide range of intake, probation, detention, and other residential services. At the court he has been instrumental in implementing an extensive management information system and has overseen the design and construction of a major juvenile courthouse renovation project plus four youth residential programs with several new ones planned.

In addition to his duties as director of the court, Mr. Picciano has served as chair of the Virginia Court Directors Association, the Virginia Juvenile Officers Association as well as other local and regional groups addressing the needs of youth and families in trouble. He is currently president of CASA, Fairfax County's Court Appointed Special Advocate program for abused and neglected children.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in honoring Vincent M. Picciano for his many years of service to the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court and his community of Fairfax, VA and wish him well in his retirement.